

# Cyngor Tref Llanandras a Norton PRESTEIGNE AND NORTON TOWN COUNCIL

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## Notes from the annual town walk Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> August

### 1. PRESENT

Cllrs. C. Kirkby (Mayor), J. Wilding (Deputy Mayor), Ms. B. Baynham, N. Green, Ms. N. Humphreys, J. Kendall, H Owens, B. Price, P. Robinson, J. Tennant-Eyles, Ms. A. Wake.

### 2. APOLOGIES

Cllr. Spawton, Cllr Ms. Simpson.

### 3. WALK

#### **Norton Manor**

The new manager gave an interesting overview of the three stages of work planned for the hotel of which the first should be completed soon in time for the opening event being held by Cllr Wilding. He sought the TC's help in promoting this new venture.

#### **Wents Meadow inc. toilets, Barn, bins for dog waste**

Omitted as too muddy and not enough time

#### **Main Car Park (flooding and youth problems)**

Members viewed the work that had been done to try and prevent the flooding to Archie Dobson's property. Unfortunately this had failed again in the recent heavy rain. The Mayor has reported this to Mr. Kevin Lloyd who will get the Engineers dept to come and look at the problem again. Also to be reported was the need to get the door moved.

The Mayor had received a letter complaining of the behaviour of young drivers and footballers in the car park that was rendering their life a misery. As if on cue two cars full of young lads came screeching into the car park shortly followed by a gang of youths coming to play football. It was agreed that this was a difficult problem to resolve and that it would be referred to the police and Powys CC views would be sought on playing football in car parks.

#### **Recycling Centre (poor maintenance by PCC)**

Agreed to refer this to the agenda for the next meeting

#### **Industrial Estate (look at recent developments)**

Looked at the new building of 4/8 office/light industrial units. Questions were raised on need or flexibility of the units and the lack of a small kitchen in them.

Cllr Wilding reported on a recent advert placed by PCC for 2-3 acres in Presteigne. Suggested that some of the remaining ground on this site would be ideal for a CA site and Mayor agreed to raise this with PCC.

#### **New sites for bike/motorcycle racks**

This to be referred back to the Chamber of Trade who originally consulted the Town Council on the issue of bicycle racks.

The meeting then adjourned to the upstairs lounge in the Radnorshire Arms Hotel.

#### 4. FINANCE

All payments below were approved.

<b>Welsh Royal Crystal</b> Gift for former Cllr. Mrs Davies	<b>£117.25</b>
<b>Clearview Cleaning Services (Hfd) Ltd.</b> (Monthly account for toilet cleaner £314.14 plus VAT)	<b>£369.11</b>
<b>KFS</b> (Building Materials - £4.87 plus VAT) Items for Toilets	<b>£5.72</b>
<b>KBS</b> (£27.42 plus VAT) Painting Materials Toilets	<b>£32.22</b>
<b>npower</b> (£78.72 plus VAT) Electricity for toilets	<b>£82.65</b>
<b>Zurich Municipal Insurance</b> Town council insurance policy	<b>£1048.60</b>

#### 5. PLANNING

a) **The following applications were passed with no objections:-**

**P2008 1195** Full, erection of extension at **Westfields, Knighton Road, Presteigne.**

**P2008 1232** Listed Building Consent, reinstate back door and porch, remove blockwork walls etc at **Taylor's Farmhouse, Norton.**

#### 6. CORRESPONDENCE

a) **Planning Application Validation Checklist Consultation.**

Considered a done deal and no comments would be made.

b) **Invitation to PCC Chairman's reception, County Hall, Wed 1<sup>st</sup> Oct**

The Mayor agreed to attend.

c) **Letter from Knighton Town Council re. Police Community Support Officer**

Whilst agreed that this would be a good idea the cost to Presteigne TC of £7,500 was considered to high given our small budget. Sharing the cost of a PCSO with the adjacent community councils was considered but rejected as this would dilute the officer's efficiency too much. Clerk to thank Knighton TC for the suggestion but regretfully inform them of our decision.

d) **Letter from PCC requesting a nomination for the new Single Community Sub-Committee of the Powys Standards Committee**

Only suggestion was that this policy needed a serious review if not scrapping. No volunteers.

e) **Email from Richard Davies re. access to Hillberry, Knighton Road.**

Agreed that there should be a site visit between R Davies and Cllr Wildling to discuss what was planned and that it would be subject at the very least to full reinstatement of any damage done.

f) **Letter from Kirsty Williams re. removal of payphones.**

No comments as none proposed in PNTC area.

**g) Invitation to Radnorshire Liaison Meeting, 22 Sept 08**

The Mayor agreed to attend.

**h) Letter from Eddie Taylor re maintenance of Wents Meadow**

1. Can the boundary hedge on Norton Road be cut back to a reasonable width now that the telephone cables have been removed? *The metal stakes were removed earlier this year and we are now awaiting Dilwyn Price to do this.*
2. It would be good thing done if the bottom hedge from the Old Mill across to the wicket gate could be cut low and some of the overhanging trees from the Withy Beds cut off: I think the hedge-cutter could do this. This would enable the sun (when it shines) to dry out the footpath across the Mill bank which is now very muddy and dark (a lot of people use this path). *Will ask Dilwyn to do this to our side of the hedge and ask RWT to look after the lane side of the hedge.*
3. What about a rethink on allotments? Councillors should lead. The triangular orchard near the Old Mill would make a very good allotment for a number of people, each one having a fruit tree; at the moment this is good fertile land going to waste. *Decision not to allow allotments only recently taken and have to leave for 6 months before any reconsideration given.*
4. Finally the Wents Meadow Management Committee needs to meet again and to have local new members recruited. *Proposed this should happen again in Oct and Eddie to be invited as previously agreed.*

**7. FOR INFORMATION ONLY - Noted**

Offas Dyke Association recent letter to HCC  
Stonewall Hill Group submission to HCC

**8. AOB**

Miss Minton from Townend had contacted the Mayor concerned over the possible cut of the Knighton - Presteigne – Kington bus and the taxi/bus service that meets the trains at Knighton. She had had difficulty trying to find out from the local member what was going on so had approached the TC. The Mayor has emailed John Forsey at PCC to try and find out.

**There then followed a presentation to former Cllr. Mrs Davies.**

This was attended by former town councillors and members of Evelyn's family. On behalf of the Town Council and the people of Presteigne the Mayor thanked Evelyn for her 32 years service and the unique achievement of being Mayor for 5 terms of office. He spoke warmly of contribution to the council and how her knowledge will be missed. He then presented Evelyn with an inscribed Royal Welsh Glass footed fruit bowl. Finally there was a champagne toast, food and photographs.